

September 13-20, 2020 at

# First Congregational United Church of Christ

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

Worshiping Sundays at 10:30 AM via Zoom



## Worship with Us: Homecoming Sunday

[Click here](#) to worship with us by Zoom this Homecoming Sunday at 10:30 as worship leaders stream live from the sanctuary. The opening voluntary will lead you visually back into the sanctuary, Peter Byrne will offer a personal Call to Worship, and Rev. Sam will talk to our kids about our fall theme of "Wonder & Gratitude." An anthem from the choir will lift our spirits. Rev. Amanda will preach a sermon entitled, "Look What God Can Do," on the exodus through the Red Sea as the Israelites were chased down by the Egyptian army, until they are free on the other side and Miriam leads the women in dancing. Dr. Josie Hoover will respond to the sermon with a liturgical dance set to an original piece arranged by Music Director John Horman called "Faith Rewoven." Look out also for the faces of friends and members from over the summer in a meaningful slideshow. Please join us as we reflect on the meaning of coming home in these times.

Following worship, please join our Zoom coffee hour for a time of fellowship. An optional discussion question: What do you love about the fall season?



## Second Sunday Offering This Sunday, September 13: Faith UCC's Mobile Food Market

In the midst of the COVID pandemic that is causing (and increasing) food insecurity, the Social Action and Awareness Commission has decided to designate the Second Sunday offering in September to a food ministry in Northeast DC. Faith UCC, located at 4900 Tenth Street NE, offers a free Mobile Food Market monthly, each third Thursday of the month. Folks can drive up, open their trunks, and have food placed into the trunk. They can walk up to get a "grab and go" bag, and food is also dropped off both at senior buildings as well as the Mary Elizabeth House, an apartment building for young women who have aged out of the Foster Care System (currently housing 12 women each with a child).

In July they served 113 households -- 38 were new households, 75 were returning households. There were 335 people in the households with 101 children, 114 seniors and 13 veterans. Most of the persons receiving food were from DC. Our financial donations will greatly help the program provide consistent services.

Look for future announcements from SAAC about other ways we can support this Mobile Food Market – e.g., volunteering to transport food to senior buildings (the bigger the vehicle, the better), volunteering onsite to help with food distribution (outside at Faith UCC), and donating non-perishable food items.

Here is their website: <https://faithuniteddc.com/our-ministries/>



## Unity Walk: This Sunday, September 13

[Click here](#) to check out all of the opportunities to take part in Interfaith Council's annual Unity Walk, which will be virtual this year. From the opening ceremony and visiting houses of worship to cooking, interfaith conversations on racial justice and climate

change, and youth-led discussions, there is something here for everyone. A new video featuring the history of First Church and our building, created by Hannah Long-Higgins and Meg Maguire, will be part of the tour this year--thank you Hannah and Meg! We also salute the Rev. David Lindsey, IFC's new Executive Director, who has been worshipping with us recently, and our own Ron Yoder, who serves on IFC's Board of Directors. We are indeed blessed to count ourselves among a community where the richness of many religious traditions is represented and comes together in unity.



## Advent and Christmas Worship Planning:

September 17 at 6:00 PM

On Thursday, September 17, at 6:00 PM, the Worship Commission will hold a Zoom meeting to plan for Advent and Christmas. Rev. Amanda and all the Commission members want to extend a special invitation to all members and friends of First Church to participate in the planning discussion. Please come and tell us what is most important for you about the Advent season

this year. Are there themes or concerns that should be addressed? The Zoom link is

<https://georgetown.zoom.us/j/2023655260>. If you cannot participate on September 17 but would like to express your ideas, please email Commission chair, Peter Byrne at [byrne@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:byrne@law.georgetown.edu).

## Help Us Lead Worship This Fall

As we move to streaming from the sanctuary beginning this Sunday, there are three ways you can serve as a liturgist or scripture reader this fall: submit a pre-recorded video of yourself, participate by Zoom from home, or join the small crew streaming live from the sanctuary while following our guidelines for safety. [Click here](#) to sign up to serve as a liturgist or scripture reader this fall. We are so grateful for your voice!

## Connect with Rev. Amanda This Fall

[Click here](#) to sign up to connect with Rev. Amanda this fall by phone, Zoom, or (on Friday mornings only) at the church (please note that physical distancing will be observed and masks will be worn by all). If none of these dates work for you but you would still like to connect, there is a space at the bottom of the sign-up sheet to indicate that and Rev. Amanda will be in touch with you to find a time that works. These one-hour meetings may include pastoral care, a time to better get to know each other, and an opportunity to catch up and share from the heart.

*Deadline for October Gabriel's Horn: Monday, September 28*



## OUR FAITH, OUR VOTE 2020

Seven (7) Sundays Left to November 3!

Now is the time to get your vote on! Are you ready?

What's your plan? You must be able to answer these questions if you live in the District/Maryland/Virginia:



- Are you registered to vote?
- Will you vote by mail or in person?
- Where will you vote?
- Will you vote early?

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- September 18: Early voting starts in Virginia
- First Week in October: DC will send mail-in ballots to all registered voters
- Register to vote by October 13 in the DMV
- October 26 & 27: Early voting begins in Maryland and DC

Don't let these dates slip under the radar. Make your plan today!

Official websites for DMV voting questions:

[WWW.DCBOE.ORG](http://WWW.DCBOE.ORG)

[WWW.ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV](http://WWW.ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV)

[WWW.ELECTIONS.VIRGINIA.GOV](http://WWW.ELECTIONS.VIRGINIA.GOV)



### Breakaway Meditation Wednesdays from 12:15-12:45 PM

[Click here](#) to join Breakaway Meditation by Zoom on Wednesday from 12:15-12:45 PM. This group is open to all. It begins with a time of welcome and introductions, followed by a short reading, a brief guided grounding time, and then a chime or bell will signal the start of a silent meditation, which typically lasts 10-15 minutes. The time will end with blessing and brief

sharing. Thank you to Nora Marsh for organizing this group. If you would like to join this group, contact Nora at [knoramarsh@icloud.net](mailto:knoramarsh@icloud.net) or look out for an email with the link on Wednesday mornings.

### Staff Vacation Schedule

- Byron Adams – September 15-18
- Cindy Dobbs – October 6-9

## Prayer List

Paul Bushmiller, recovering from surgery  
John and Nora Marsh, as they care for their Aunt Louise and Uncle Bill,  
transitioning them to a nursing home.  
Garnell Yarbrough, for healing from illness  
Dwan Reece and Peter Parsons, as Peter prepares for another procedure.  
Immigrants in the Farmville ICE Detention Center, upon the police violently disrupting their  
peaceful protest, and the outbreak of Covid  
The family and friends of George Floyd, and the city of Minneapolis and our nation  
Asian Americans and other racial, cultural, and religious communities  
targeted by threats based on COVID conspiracy theories  
All elders living in care facilities  
The Latinx and immigrant communities who are suffering and for the Congregational Action  
Network seeking to support and resource the congregations that serve them.  
People's UCC, our sibling congregation  
Emmanuel Okorie-Dunn and Ellen Bushmiller, who serve as nurses  
Rev. Laura Johnson, who serves as a hospital chaplain  
Hospital employees and first responders  
Rosa Gutierrez Lopez (in sanctuary at Cedar Lane UU Church)  
Pat Ashbrook • Don Bassler



Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church  
Designated Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss  
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran  
Director of Music – Mr. John Horman  
Building Manager – Mr. Byron Adams  
Administrative Assistant – Ms. Cindy Dobbs  
Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez  
Members in Discernment – Dwight Davis, Lynaya Morris

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